

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, the claims have been amended to clearly recite all the elements of the system, and the steps in the method, accordingly.

Applicant believes that the above changes answer the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. 112, paragraph 2, rejection of the claims, and respectfully requests withdrawal thereof.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,034,925 to Wehmeyer.

The Wehmeyer patent discloses an accessing control method for identifying a recording medium in a jukebox, in which a controller identifies various characteristics of data store on a pre-recorded medium, e.g., titles of programs, length of programs, genre of programs, etc., and then allows a user select among the programs by providing a sorted list of the programs or a grouped list based on, for example, the genre.

The subject invention concerns an information processing system in which a user is able to control the amount of randomness that is being used in the generation of a playlist of stored content information. In particular, as claimed in claim 1, the controller in the information processing system comprises "a user interface for enabling a user to control said track selector, said user interface having a variable random control for controlling an


amount of randomness of randomly selected content information in forming said playlist, said variable random control having a first position in which the track selector selects the content information from the inventory to form the playlist in the order in which the list of content information is stored in the inventory, a last position in which the track selector selects the content information from the inventory to form the playlist in a random order under control of the random generator, and at least one intermediate position in which the track selector selects the content information from the inventory to form the playlist partly according to the random generator and partly in the order in which said list is stored."

Applicant submits that the ability to vary the amount of randomness is neither shown nor suggested by Wehmeyer. In particular, the only mention of the term "random" in Wehmeyer is at col. 6, line 66 to col. 7, line 4, where Wehmeyer states "The grouped list information may help a user navigate through the jukebox selections by allowing more direct selection requests (e.g., "play some classical music," "play 15 minutes of jazz followed by 10 minutes of alternative rock' or play a random selection of jazz, rock, and classical but not rap")."

In view of the above, Applicant believes that the subject invention, as claimed, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicant believes that this application, containing claims 1-7, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by 
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On Nov. 30, 2004
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